

March 5, 2026

Regular Meeting

Vice Mayor Lister called the Regular Meeting of the Denton Town Council to order at 6:00 PM on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Invocation was given by Pastor Dan Gedman of St. Luke's Methodist Church.

Vice Mayor Lister asked that the record reflect that Mayor McNinch and Councilman Taylor were absent and that everyone else was present.

Vice Mayor Lister took a moment to publicly thank Denton Public Works, Mr. Mark Chandler and his crew for the excellent job they did with the snow removal efforts during the recent snowstorms.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2026 Regular Meeting with a correction to page 4006, that the public hearing was closed by Mayor McNinch instead of Vice Mayor Lister; seconded by Councilman Branson who seconded the motion as corrected, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

None

Petitions, Remonstrance's, and Communication

Proclamation – Endometriosis Awareness Month

Vice Mayor Lister read a Proclamation declaring March as Endometriosis Awareness Month.

Mrs. Shannon Hannawald, Founder of Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore, shared her personal story regarding her journey with Endometriosis, and thanked the Town Council for their continued support.

Vice Mayor Lister presented the Proclamation to Mrs. Hannawald.

Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Agenda #1 – WWTP Sludge Upgrade Project – RK&K Amendment 3

A proposal from RK&K for the design and engineering services related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Processing Upgrade project was presented to the Council for consideration of approval of RK&K's proposal. The proposal would be considered Amendment 3 to RK&K's original agreement for the WWTP sludge management upgrade study. A memo is included to provide a summary of the timeline for the original agreement with RK&K, previous amendments, and MDE's approval status of RK&K's proposal.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Branson.

In discussion, Scott Getchell, Town Administrator, provided additional information and an update on the funding approved by the State, through Maryland Department of the Environment, which includes \$5.6M as a loan and \$2.5M loan forgiveness.

With no further discussion, Vice Mayor Lister asked for a vote on the motion to approve the proposal.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda #2 – Constant Yield

Mr. Getchell provided the State of Maryland Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification and discussion was held on the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2027. Discussions will continue in April during the budget meetings.

Agenda #3 - National Day of Prayer

Councilman Johnson shared that the National Day of Prayer event will be held on the evening of May 7, 2026. He suggested moving the Town Council meeting to another date so that the Mayor and Council can participate in the event.

The Council directed staff to change the date of the May meeting to Monday, May 4th.

Agenda #4 - Poor House Run Stream Restoration Memorandum of Understanding

Mr. Getchell provided a Memorandum of Understanding to provide a framework for the collaboration of ShoreRivers, Inc. and the Town of Denton to carry out their respective roles and responsibilities with respect to the Poor House Run Stream Restoration project, which includes the 5th Street and Legion Road culvert design and replacement.

Councilman Branson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the MOU, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees

Vice Mayor Lister stated that the Utility Commission did not meet in February. With no further discussion, Vice Mayor Lister adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer*